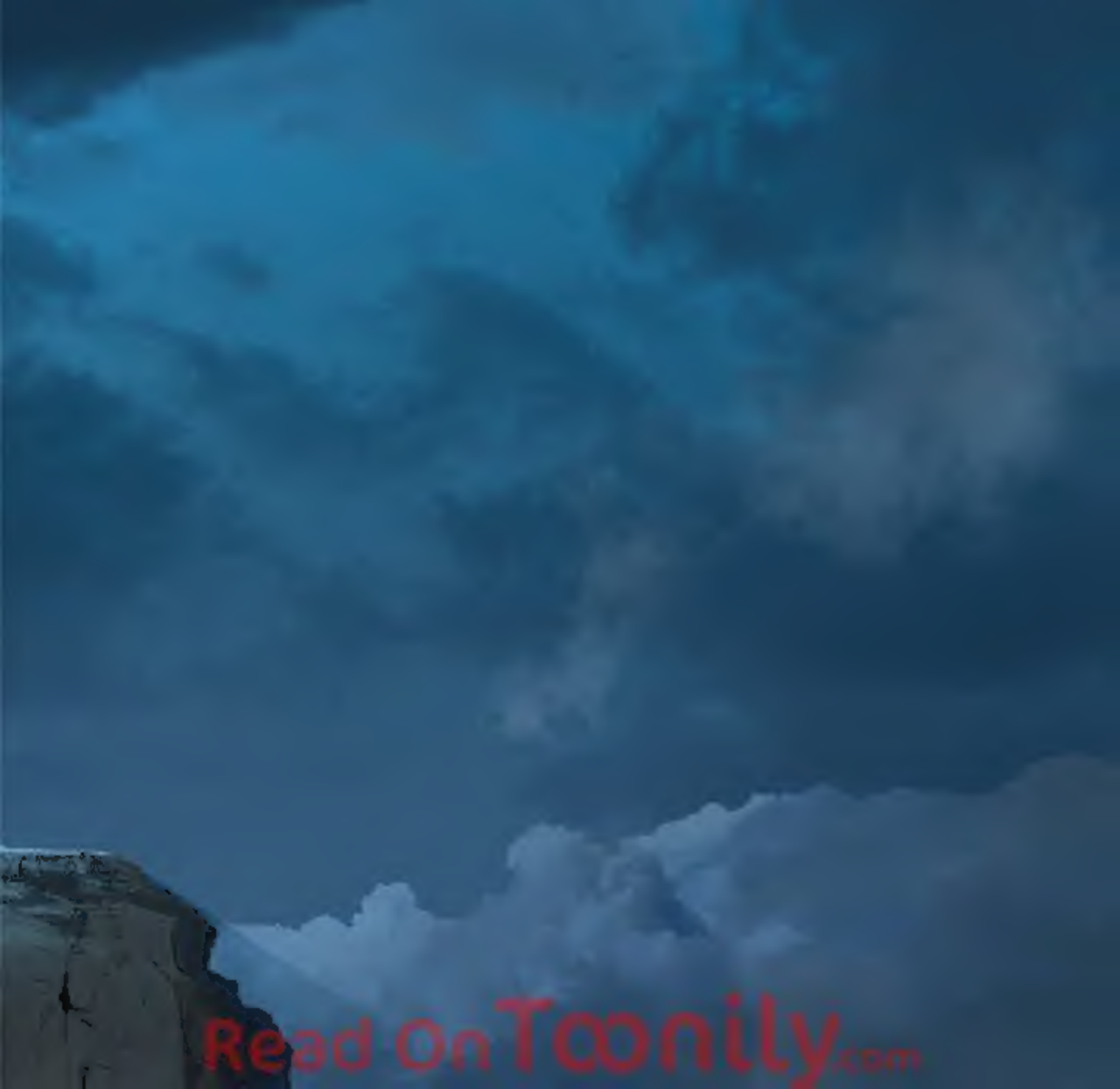
A close-up, high-contrast illustration of a character's face, likely from a comic book. The character has a stern, intense expression with a glare. The lighting is dramatic, with deep shadows and bright highlights. The word "GLARE" is written in a bold, white, stylized font with a black outline on the left side of the face.

GLARE





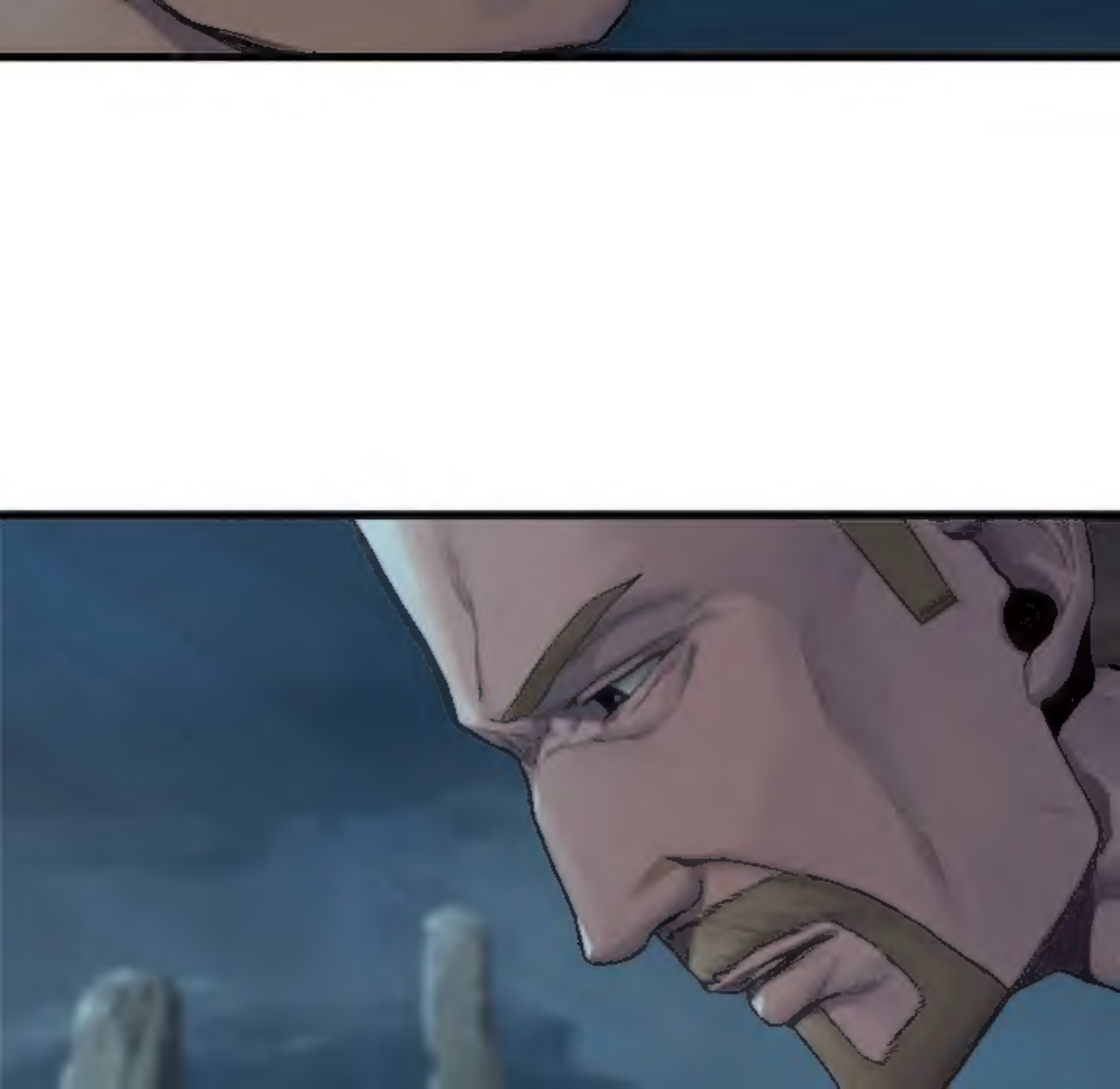


Read On Toonily.com



HER SUMMON






...

STRANGE.





I WAS
SURE THEY'D
BE HERE.




WOOOOM



WHAT
IS THAT?



MAGIC?



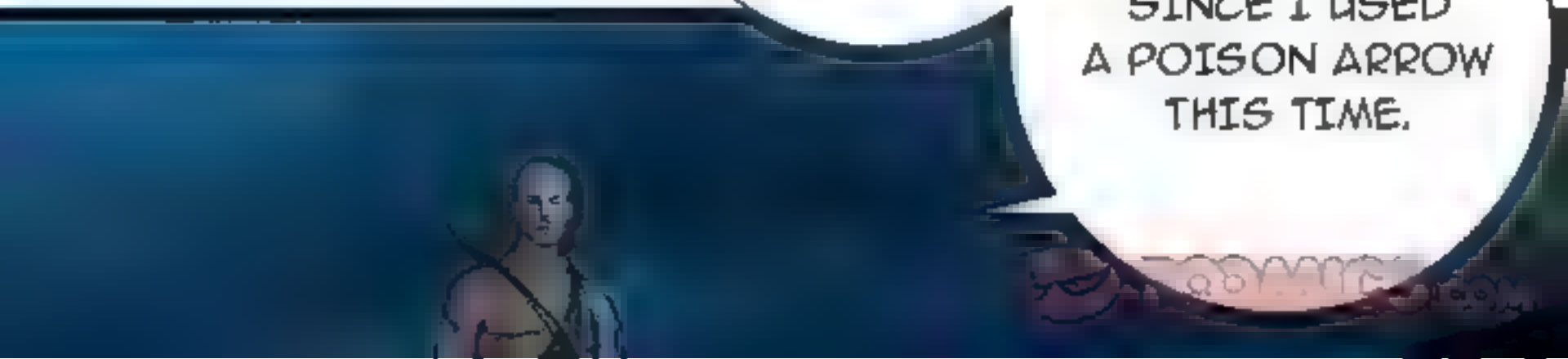
GLANCE

THEY'RE
FASTER THAN
THEY LOOK.

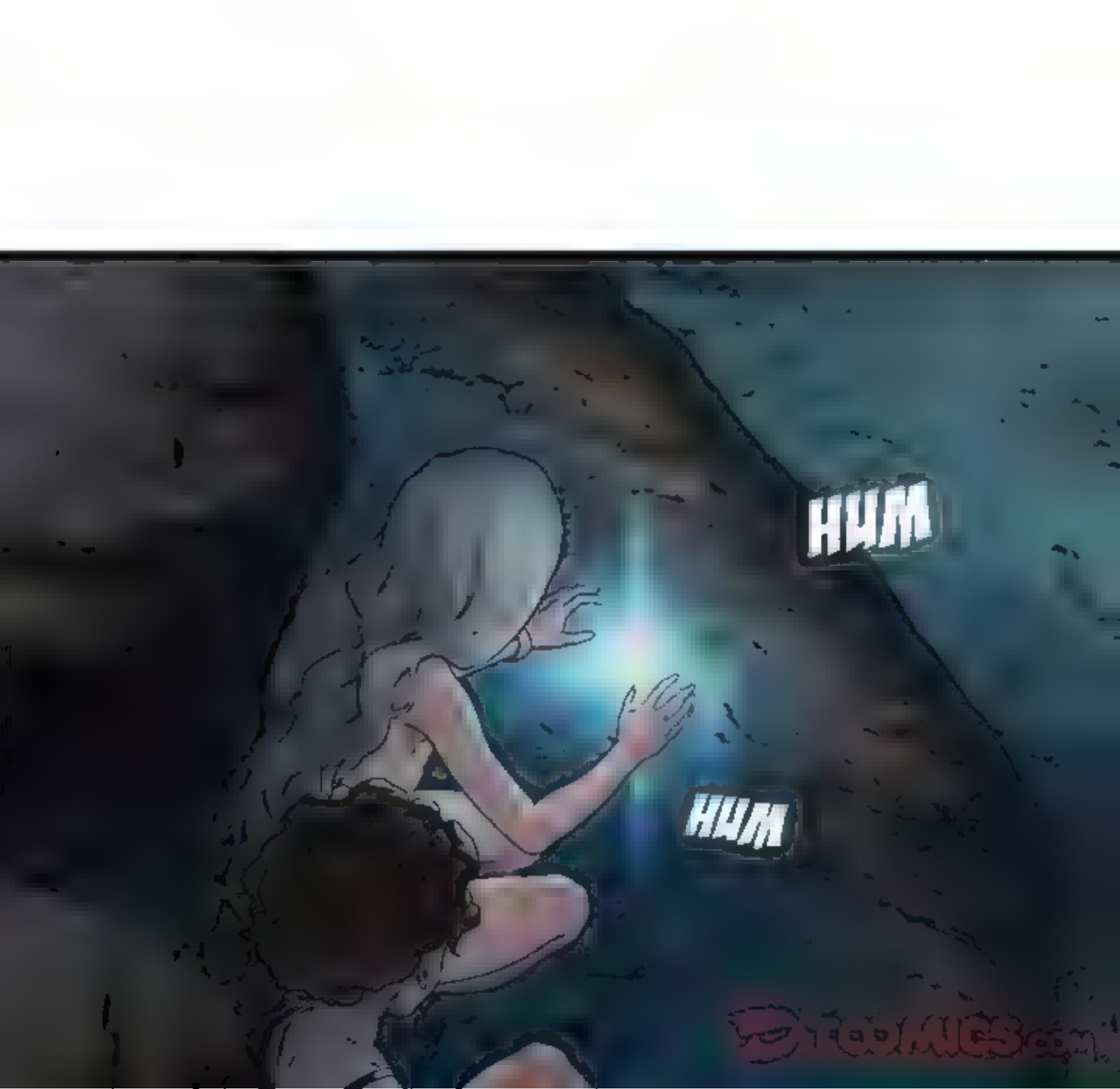


HMPH,
WELL THEY
CAN'T HAVE
GONE FAR.

SINCE I USED
A POISON ARROW
THIS TIME.













ERK...

H-HEY.

HE'S GONE!

WOOSH

HA...
HA...

H.A.D.,...

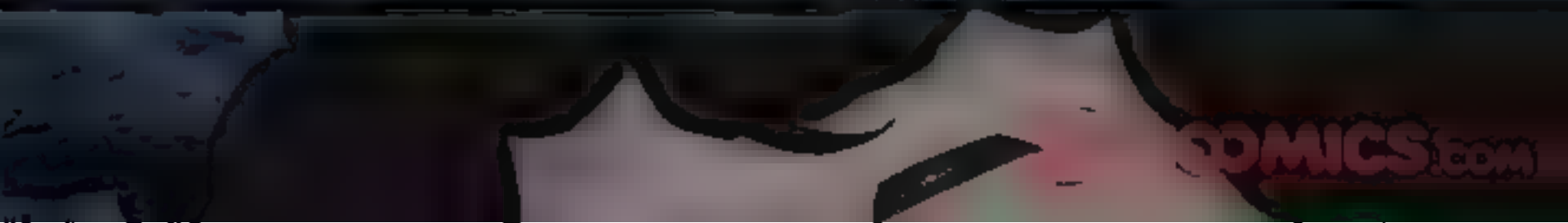
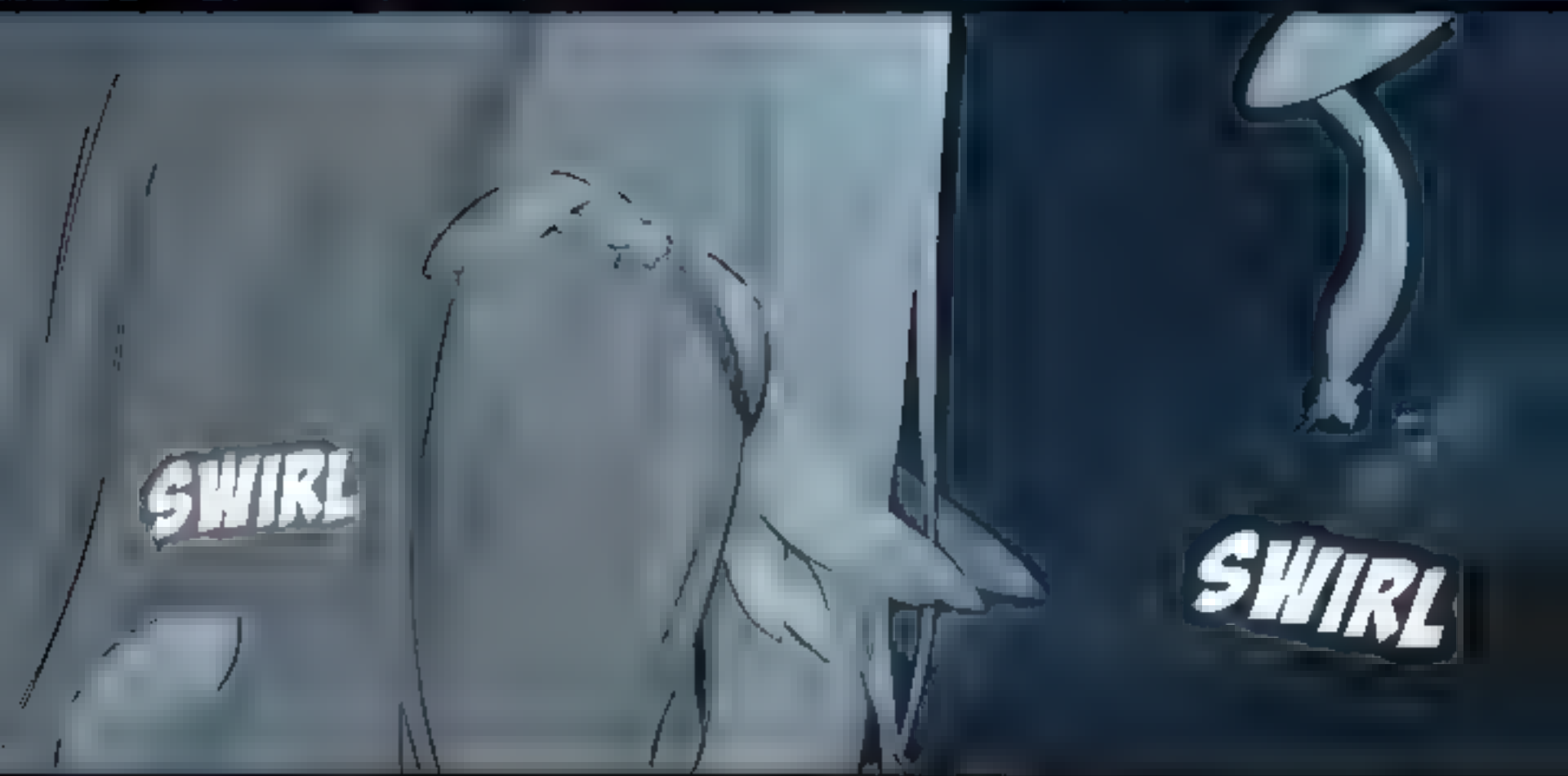
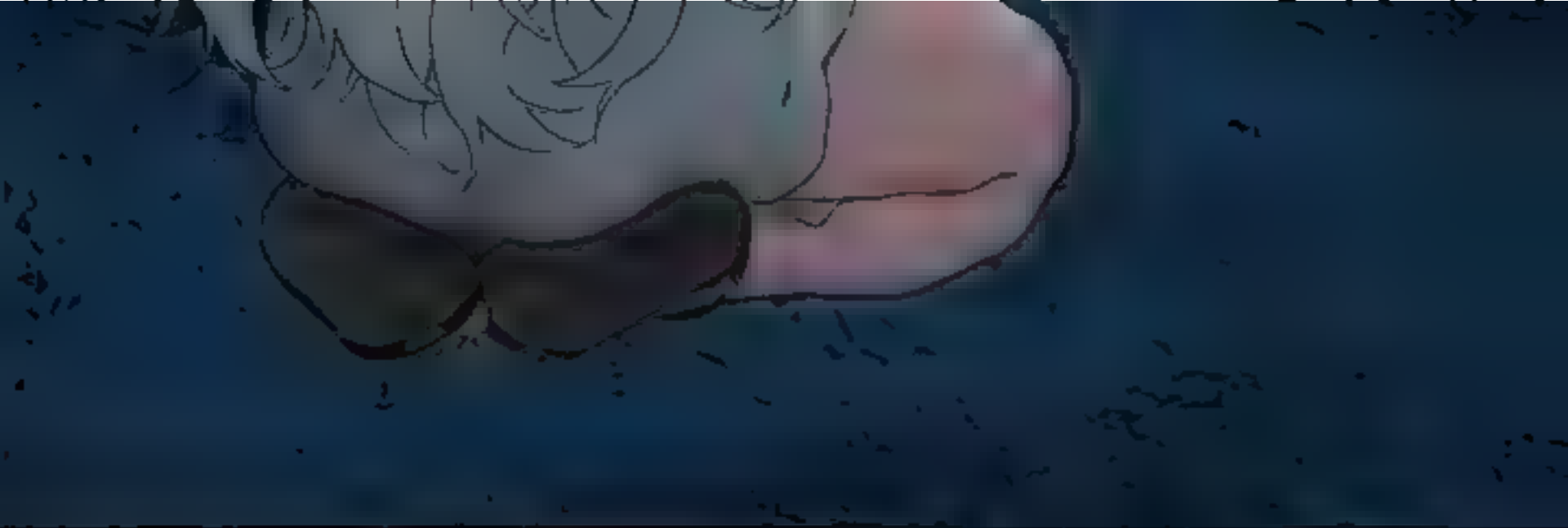
ERK...

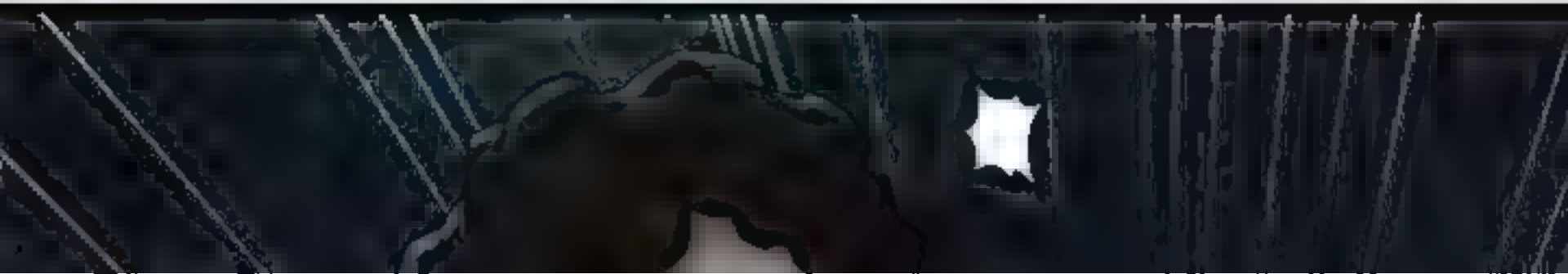
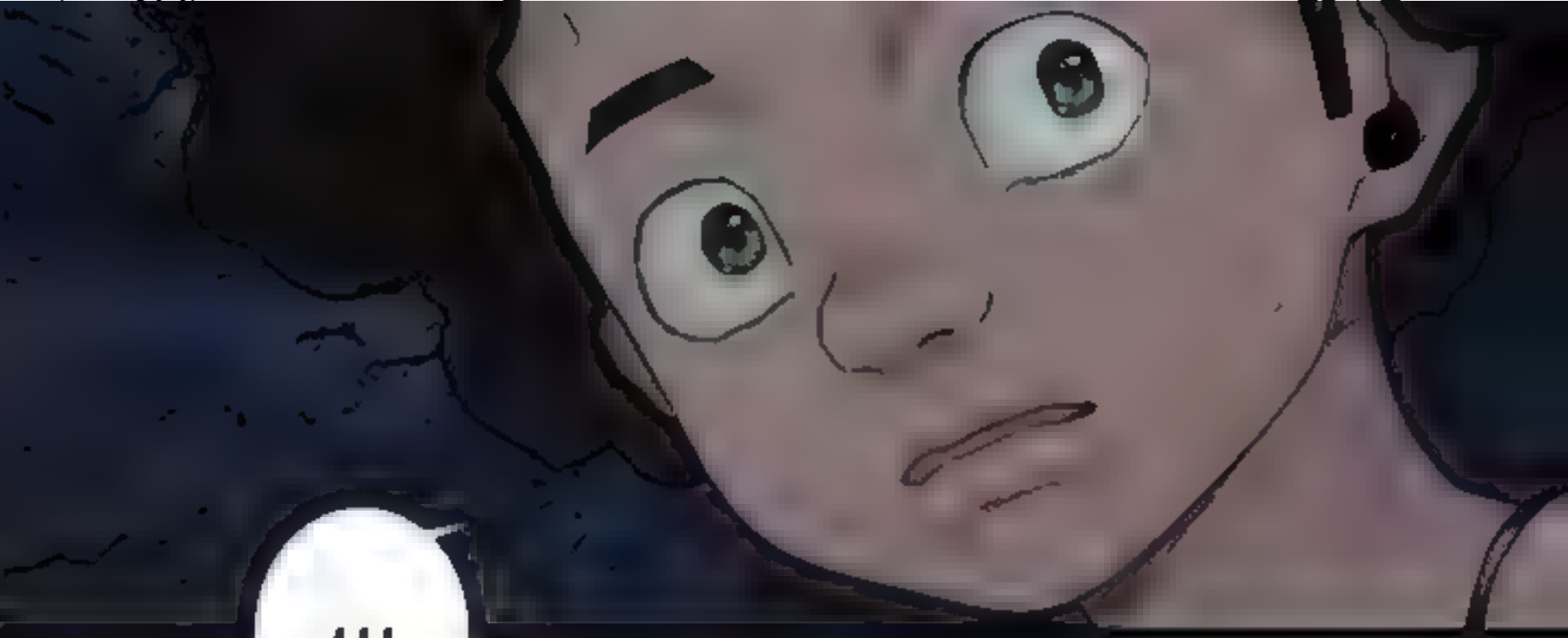
TREMBLE

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

TREMBLE



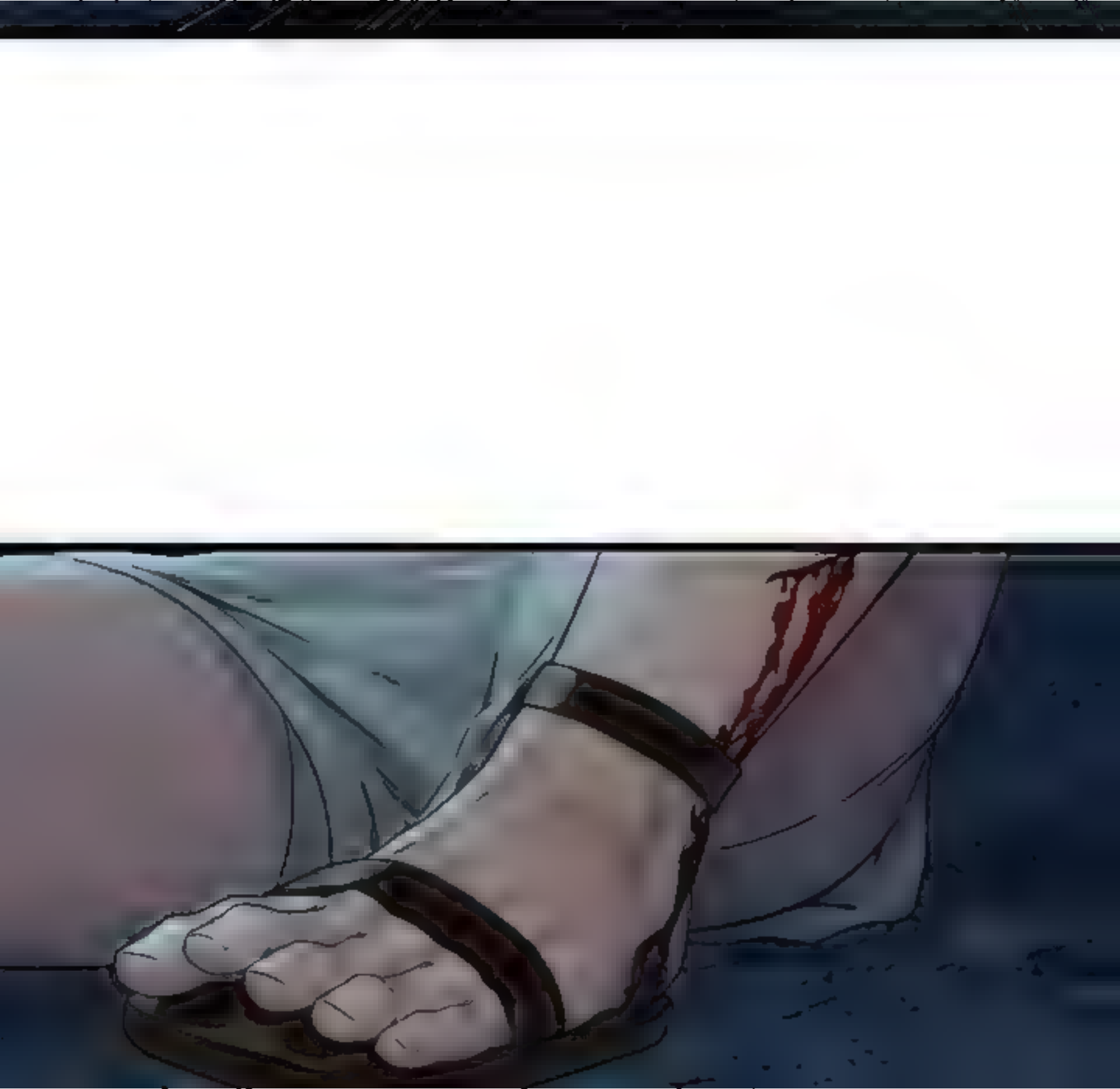




OW!

THROB

T.COMICS.COM











HEY,
LAI.

ARE YOU...
OKAY...?

WOBBLE



LAI.



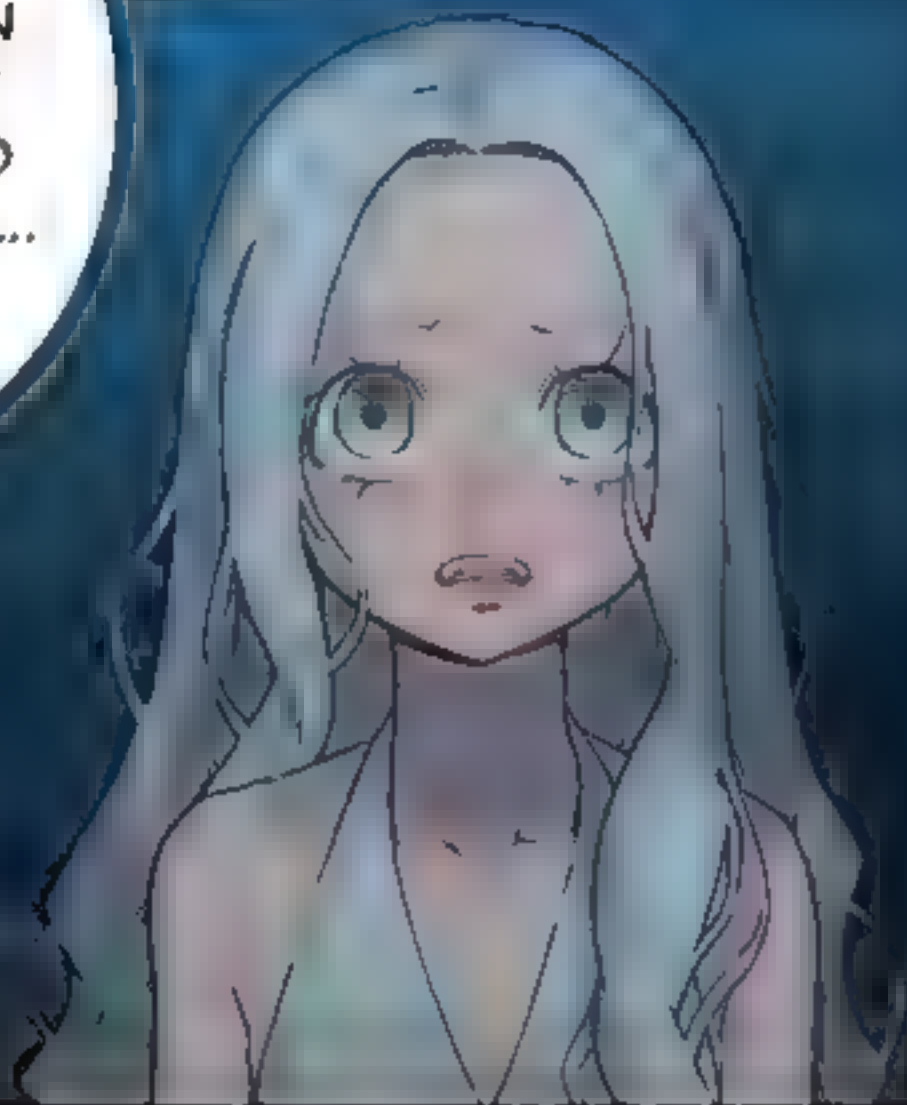
THEY SAY THAT
THE PEOPLE OF
THE NORTH...


ALL HAVE A
DAY WHERE THEY
ENCOUNTER A
SANDSTORM.




ONCE THEY
CROSS THAT
SANDSTORM,
THEY SOMETIMES
END UP AT A PLACE
THEY DIDN'T
EXPECT.

THAT'S WHEN
THEY START
TO THINK TO
THEMSELVES...




A person wearing a light-colored, possibly reflective or thermal, suit stands in a vast, arid desert landscape. The ground is sandy and uneven, with some sparse, low-lying vegetation. In the background, there are rolling hills or mountains under a clear, bright blue sky. A large, white, oval-shaped speech bubble is positioned in the upper right corner of the frame, containing text. The overall scene suggests a sense of isolation and exploration.

"IF I GOT
LOST IN THIS
SANDSTORM
DESPITE WALKING
THIS WAY
COUNTLESS
TIMES..."

A person wearing a light-colored, possibly reflective or thermal, suit stands in a vast, arid desert landscape. The ground is sandy and uneven, with some sparse, low-lying vegetation. In the background, there are rolling hills or mountains under a clear, bright blue sky. A large, white, oval-shaped speech bubble is positioned in the upper right corner of the frame, containing text. The overall scene suggests a sense of isolation and exploration.

"DID IT
REALLY HAPPEN
BECAUSE I
GOT LOST?"




"PERHAPS
IT WAS MY
DESTINY..."

LIMP


...TO GO ON
A NEW PATH."

onToonily **LIMP**




DAD USED
TO SAY THEY
WERE THE WORDS
OF COWARDS WHO
COULD NOT HANDLE
LIFE IN THE
NORTH...


BUT I LIKED
THAT STORY.

A manga-style illustration of two characters standing on a rooftop at night. The character on the left is a man with dark, curly hair, wearing a dark tank top and shorts, with his arms crossed. The character on the right is a woman with long, light-colored hair, wearing a dark top and skirt. They are both looking towards the right. The background is a dark, cloudy night sky with a full moon partially visible at the top. A large speech bubble is in the bottom left corner.

RATHER
THAN SOMETHING
LIKE DESTINY...

A person with dark, curly hair is shown from the back, looking out at a vast, blue ocean under a clear sky. A large, white speech bubble is positioned above the person's head, containing text.

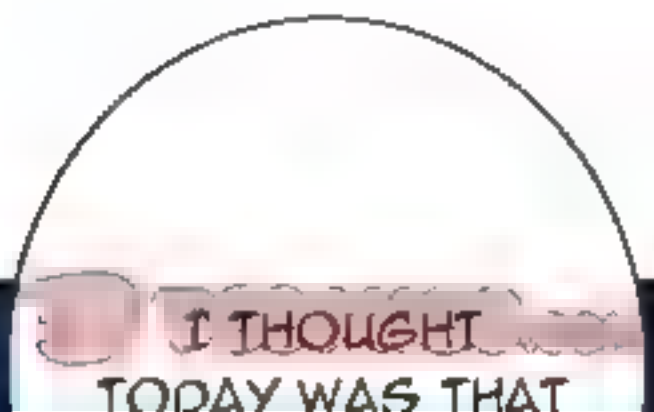
THE IDEA
OF SOMEONE
GOING SOMEWHERE
BECAUSE THEY
ACTUALLY WANTED
TO GO THERE...



THAT'S WHAT
I THOUGHT THE
REAL MEANING OF
THE STORY WAS.



LAU...



I THOUGHT
TODAY WAS THAT

...DAY FOR YOU...

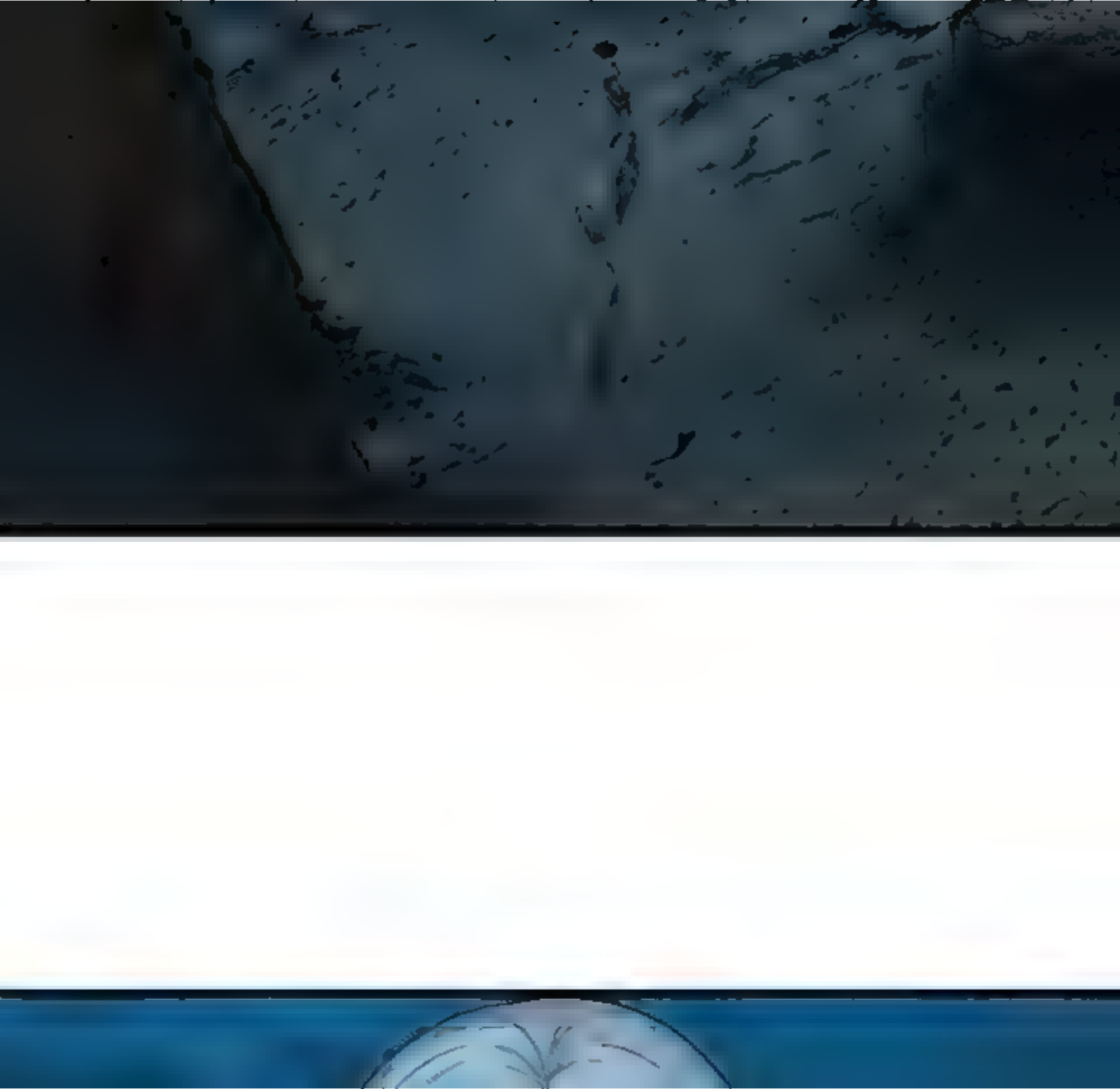
AND THAT IF
I WENT ALONG WITH
YOU, I'D CHANGE
TOO...

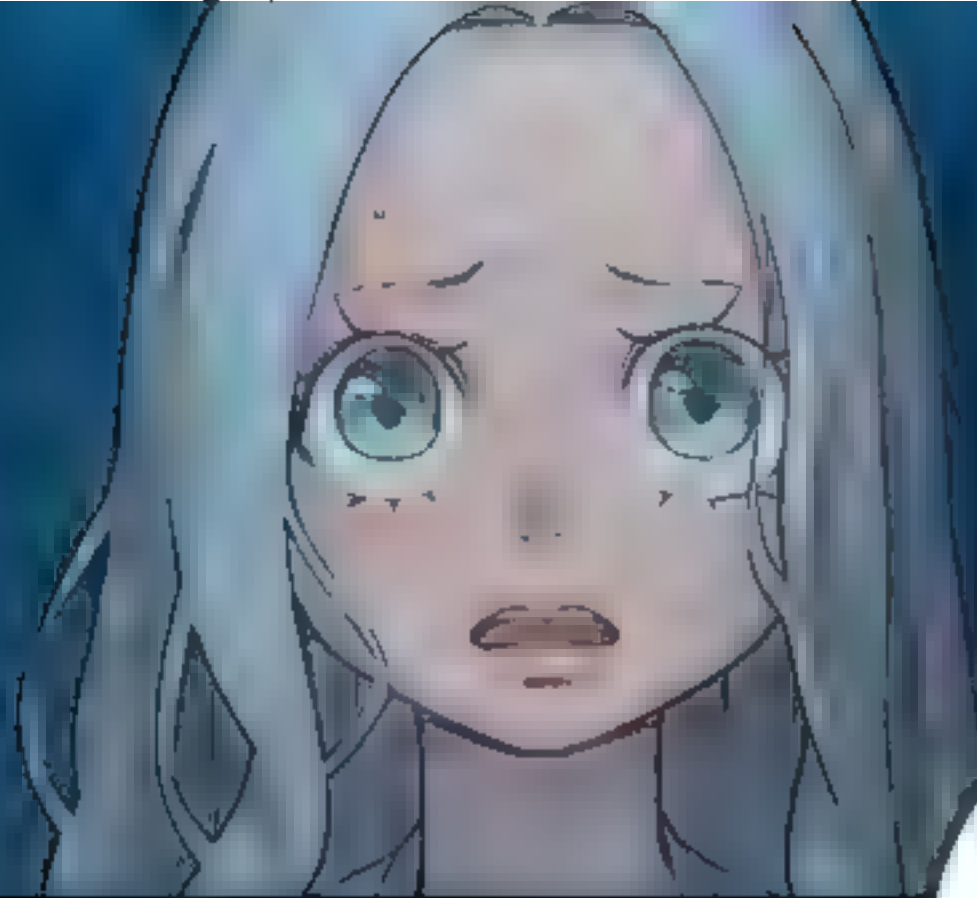




SINCE THE
ONLY THING
PEOPLE DO HERE
IN THE NORTH IS
PRAY AND
SURVIVE.

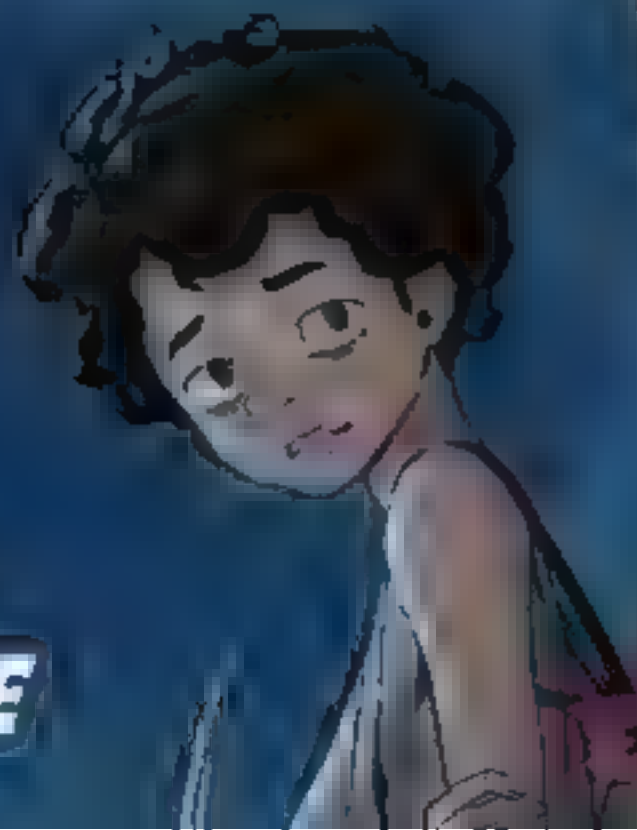
© 1994 by [illegible]





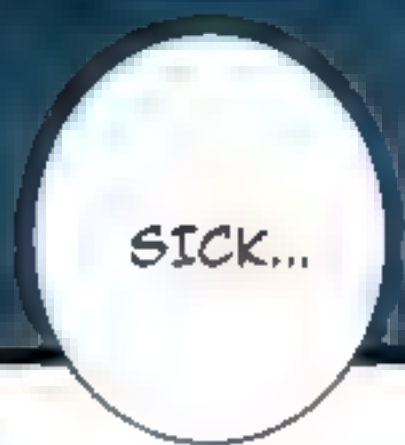
L-LAU...

YOU LOOK
REALLY ..



WOBBLE

What a lovely day



SICK...



WOBBLE



I-I WANT...


WOBBLE

TO GO
BACK...

A-AN
ORDINARY
L-LIFE IS
MORE...

THUD

LAL!



WAKE UP,
LAU!!

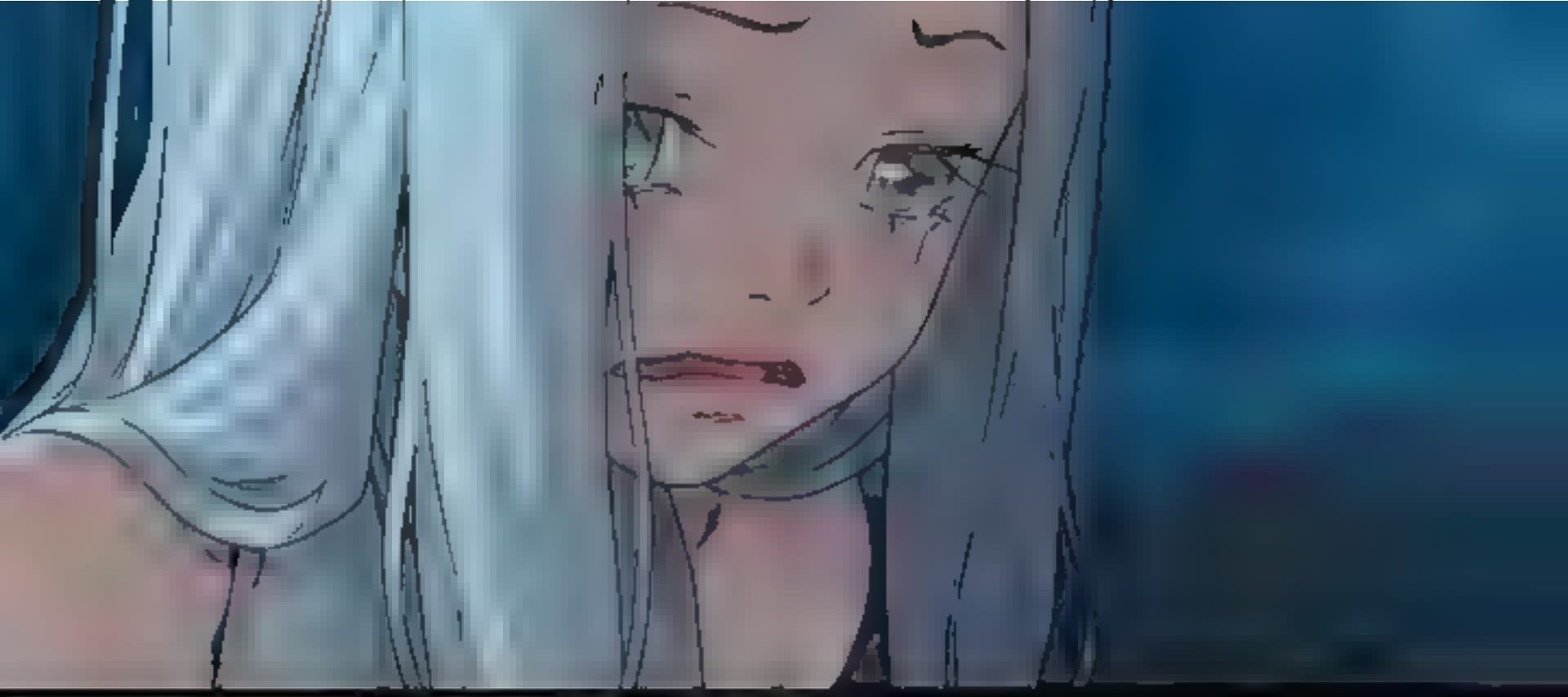


LAU!!



I'M SORRY,
LAU...

IT'S MY
FAULT...



STEP

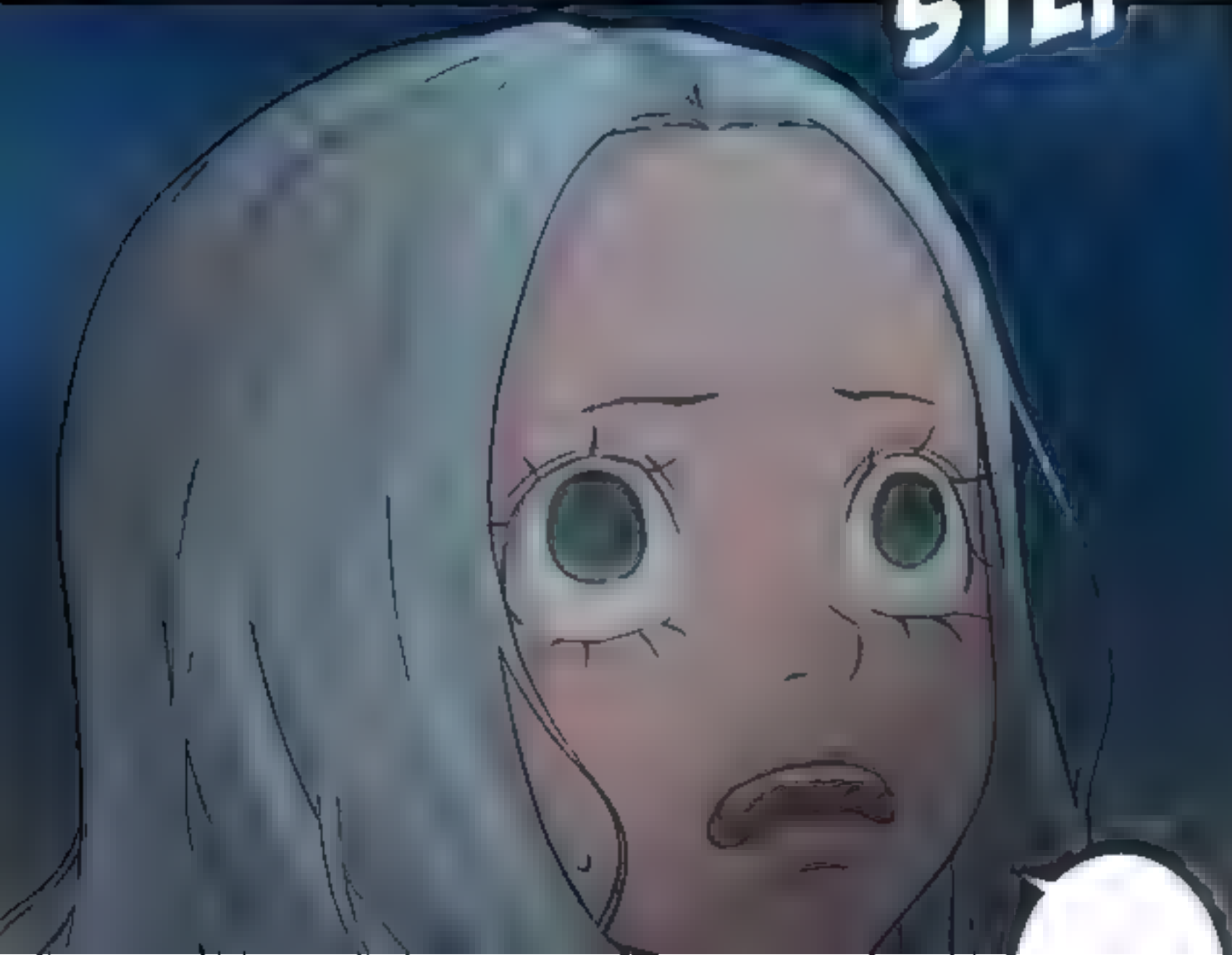
LAU...

SNIFF

STEP

1117

STEP



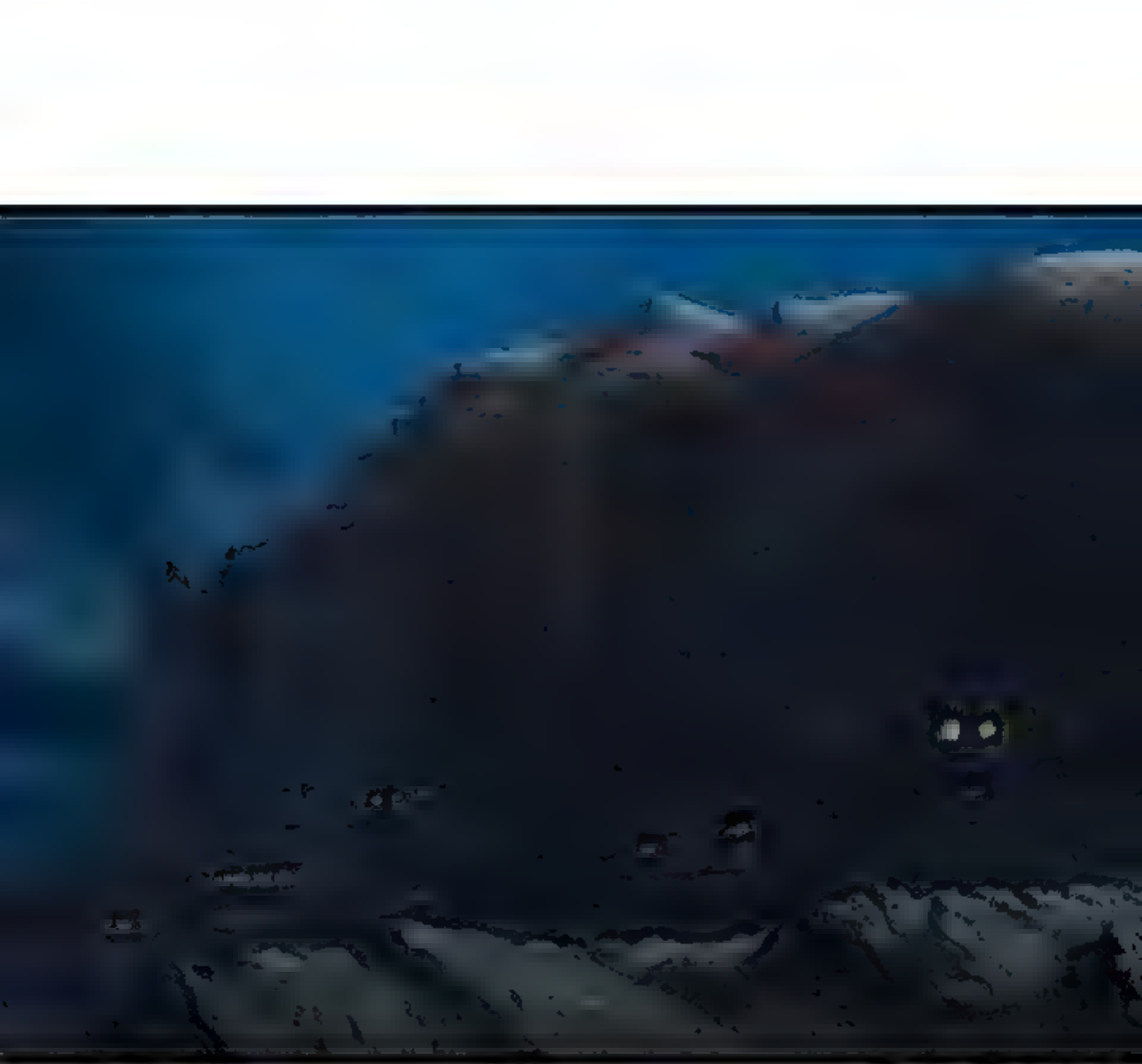
Ан...

Вот так

ΔΗΗΗ!!









DO NOT
BE AFRAID.
THIS IS JUST
A PRAY HALL.

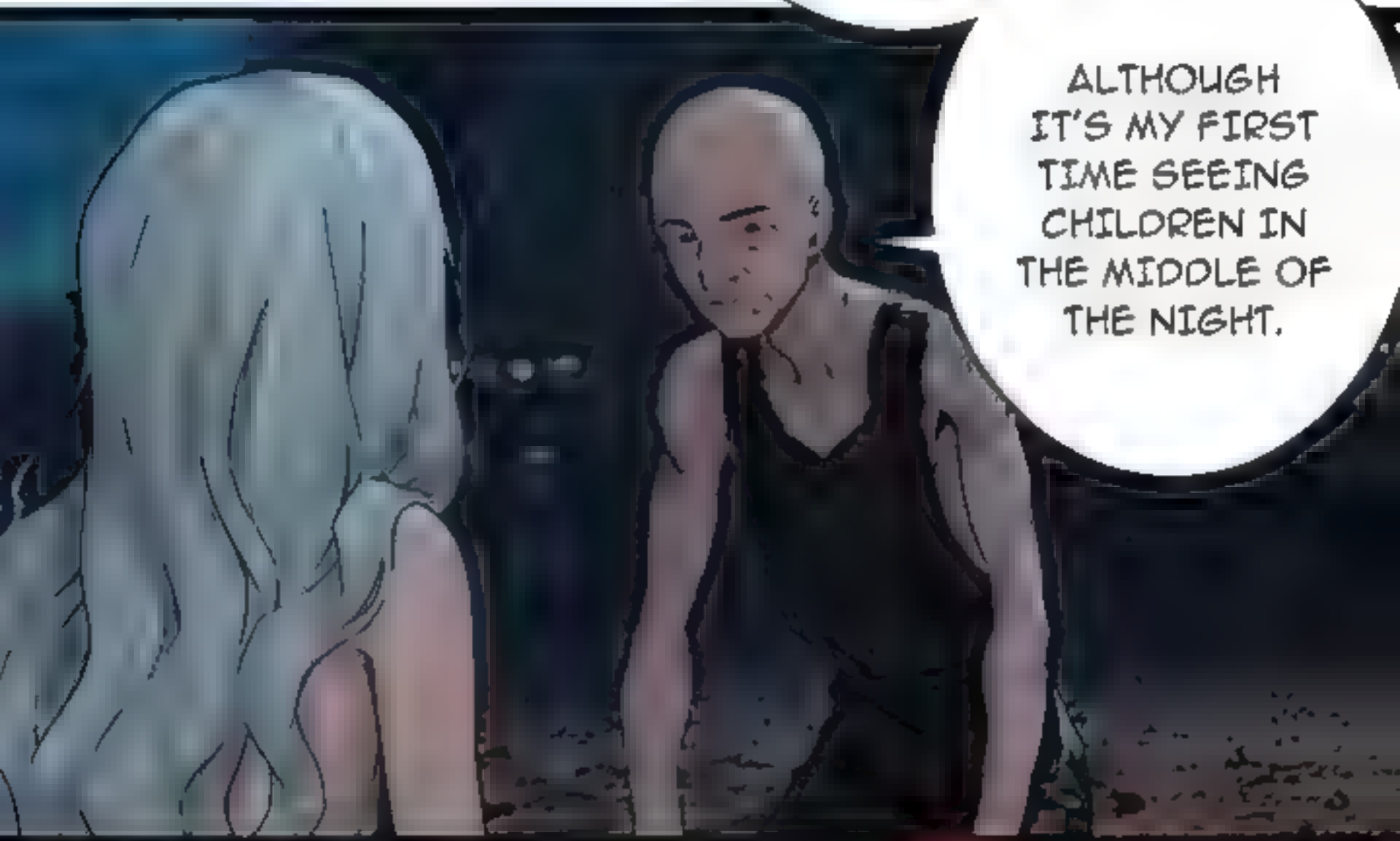
AH,
YES...

I-I'M SORRY
FOR SCREAMING.
BEFORE.



DON'T WORRY
ABOUT IT. WE'RE
USED TO THIS.

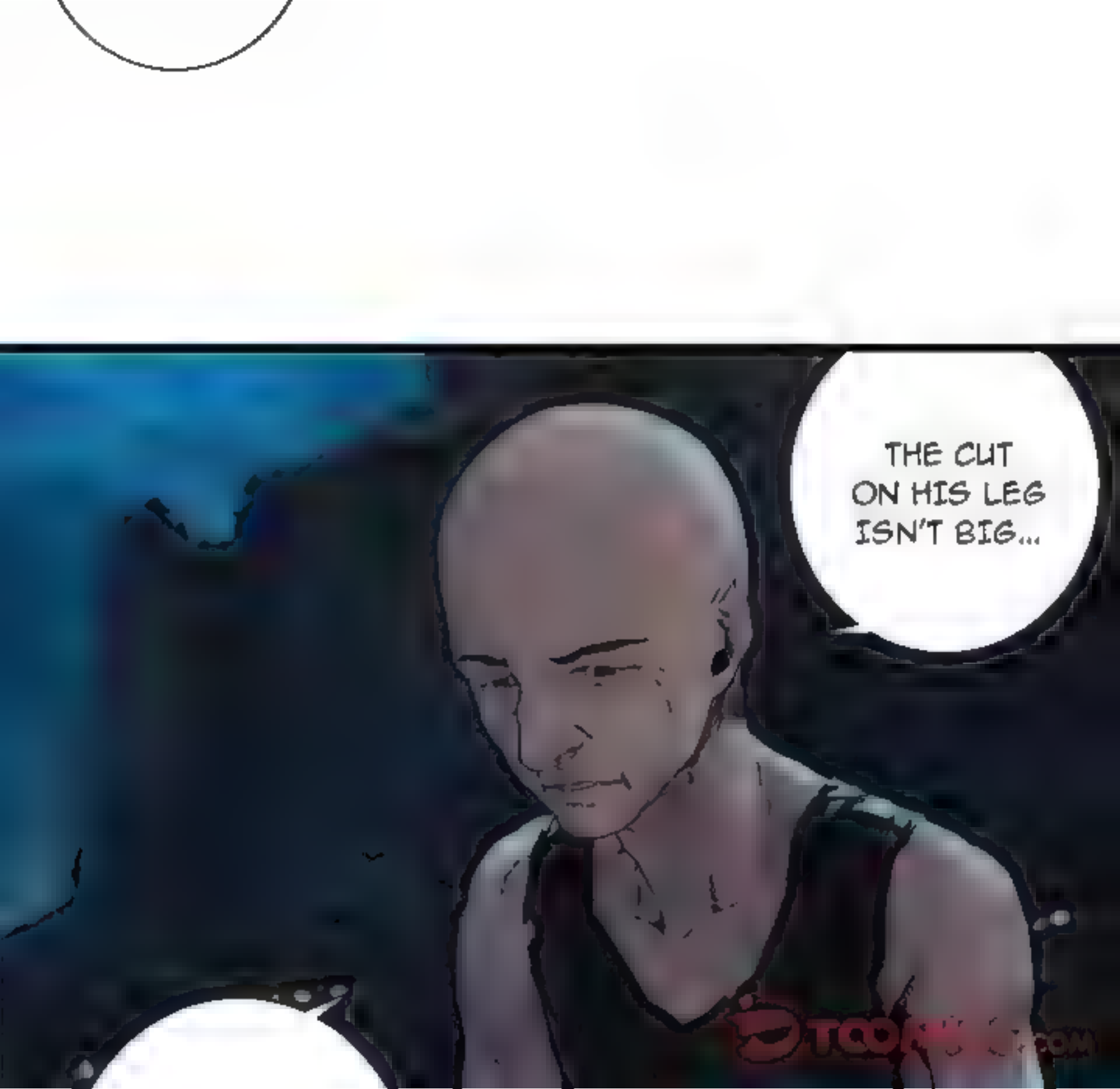
ALTHOUGH
IT'S MY FIRST
TIME SEEING
CHILDREN IN
THE MIDDLE OF
THE NIGHT.



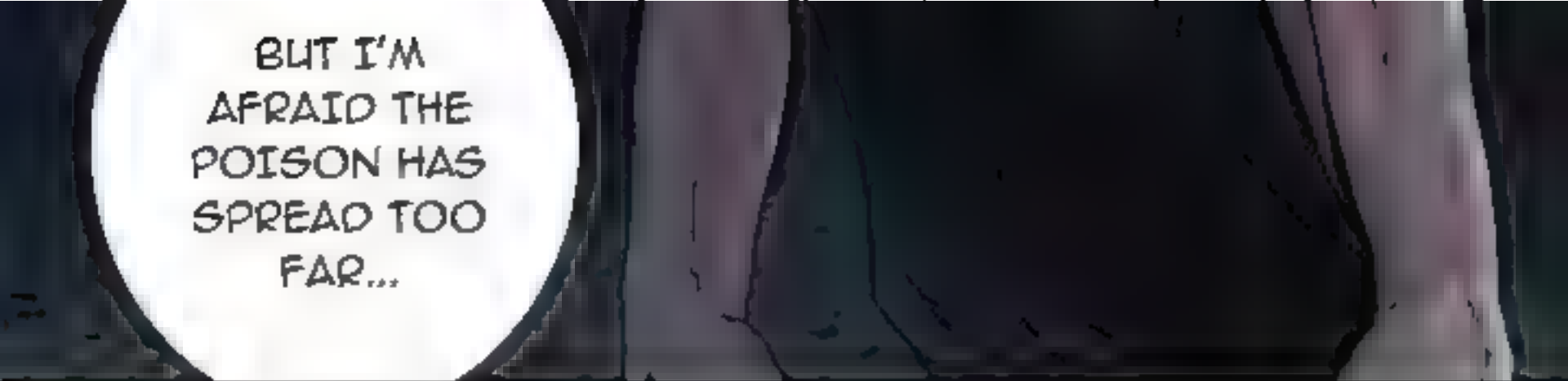


HOW...


HOW IS
LAU DOING?



THE CUT
ON HIS LEG
ISN'T BIG...

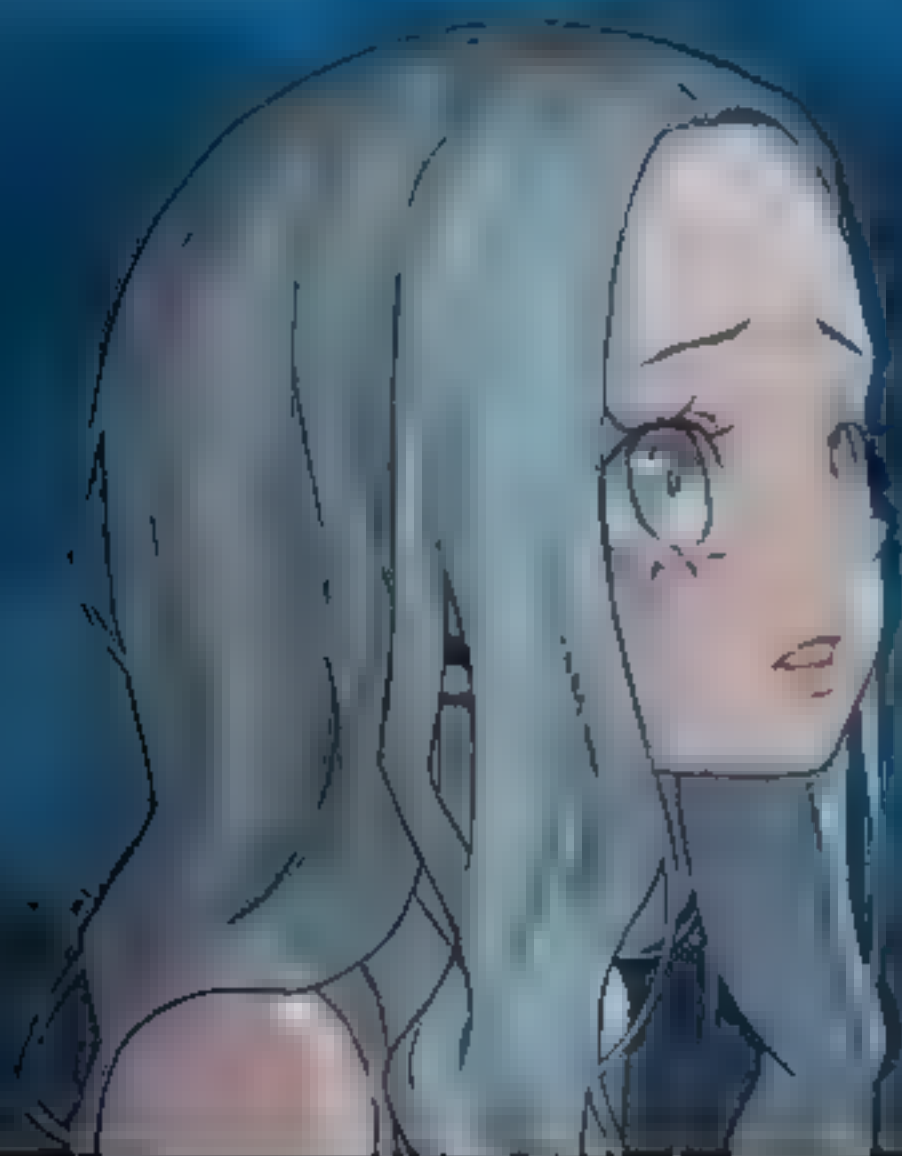


BUT I'M
AFRAID THE
POISON HAS
SPREAD TOO
FAR...




THERE'S
NOTHING WE
CAN DO NOW.

A dark, grainy, black and white photograph of a crime scene. A person lies motionless on the ground in the center. Another person stands nearby, looking down. A third person is partially visible in the upper left. A large, bright, circular light source is in the upper right. A speech bubble in the lower left contains the text: "ALL WE CAN DO IS ASK GOD FOR MERCY."



YOU MEAN
PRAY...?




THAT'S
RIGHT.

EVERYONE
HERE IS PRAYING
FOR THE LIVES THAT
ARE WITHERING
AWAY LIKE THIS
ONE.

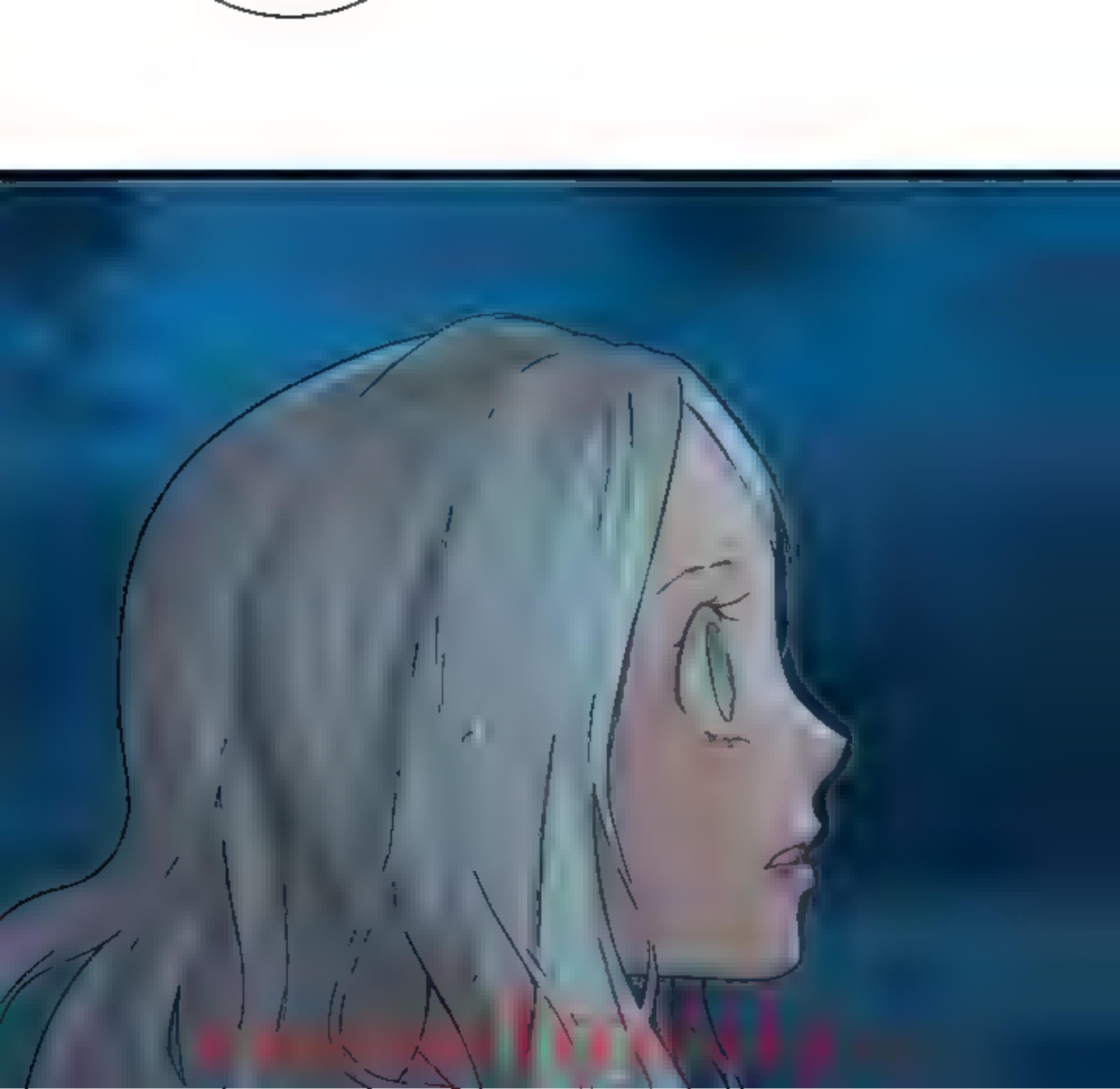


I'M SURE
OUR PRAYERS
WILL BE ANSWERED
ONE DAY.



SINCE
THE DIVINE
BEAST IS
PASSING
ON OUR
VOICES...

ON BEHALF
OF US UNWORTHY
PEOPLE.

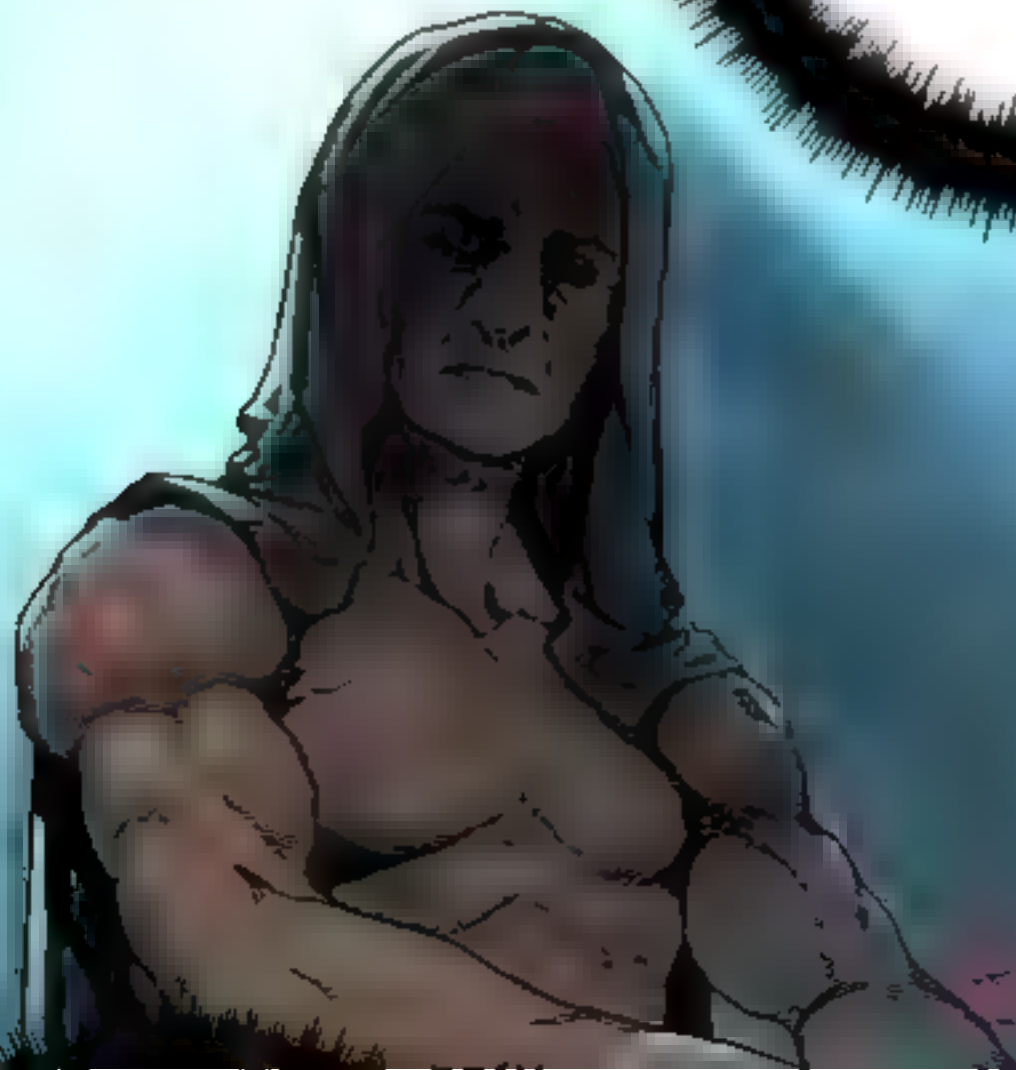





ONLY THE
PUREST OF
SOULS MAY
ANSWER THE
HOLY CALL
OF GOD...



SO YOU
MUST NOT
LET OTHERS
KNOW YOU ARE
THE DIVINE
BEAST...




A close-up of a hand holding a glowing, textured sphere. The sphere has a bright white center and a dark, spiky outer ring. The background is dark and blurry.

OR USE
YOUR PRAYER
ON TRIVIAL
AFFAIRS.

A person in a white robe and hood, holding a staff, stands in a misty, blue-toned environment. The person is looking down at the staff.

DOING
THESE THINGS
WILL INVITE EVIL
INTO THE
WORLD.

A character with long, light-colored hair and a dark jacket is standing in a dark, industrial environment. They are looking towards a bright, glowing circular light source on the left. The light source has a rough, textured border. The background shows dark, vertical structures and a dimly lit area.

DO YOU
UNDERSTAND?

BUT... MY
PRAYERS...

ARE MEANT
TO BE USED FOR
THE PEOPLE OF
THE NORTH.

SHING





FLASH

W-WHAT?!


A comic book panel depicting a dark, rocky cave. Several figures are visible, some holding torches that cast a warm glow. The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light sources being the torches. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and dramatic.

WOAH!!

MURMUR

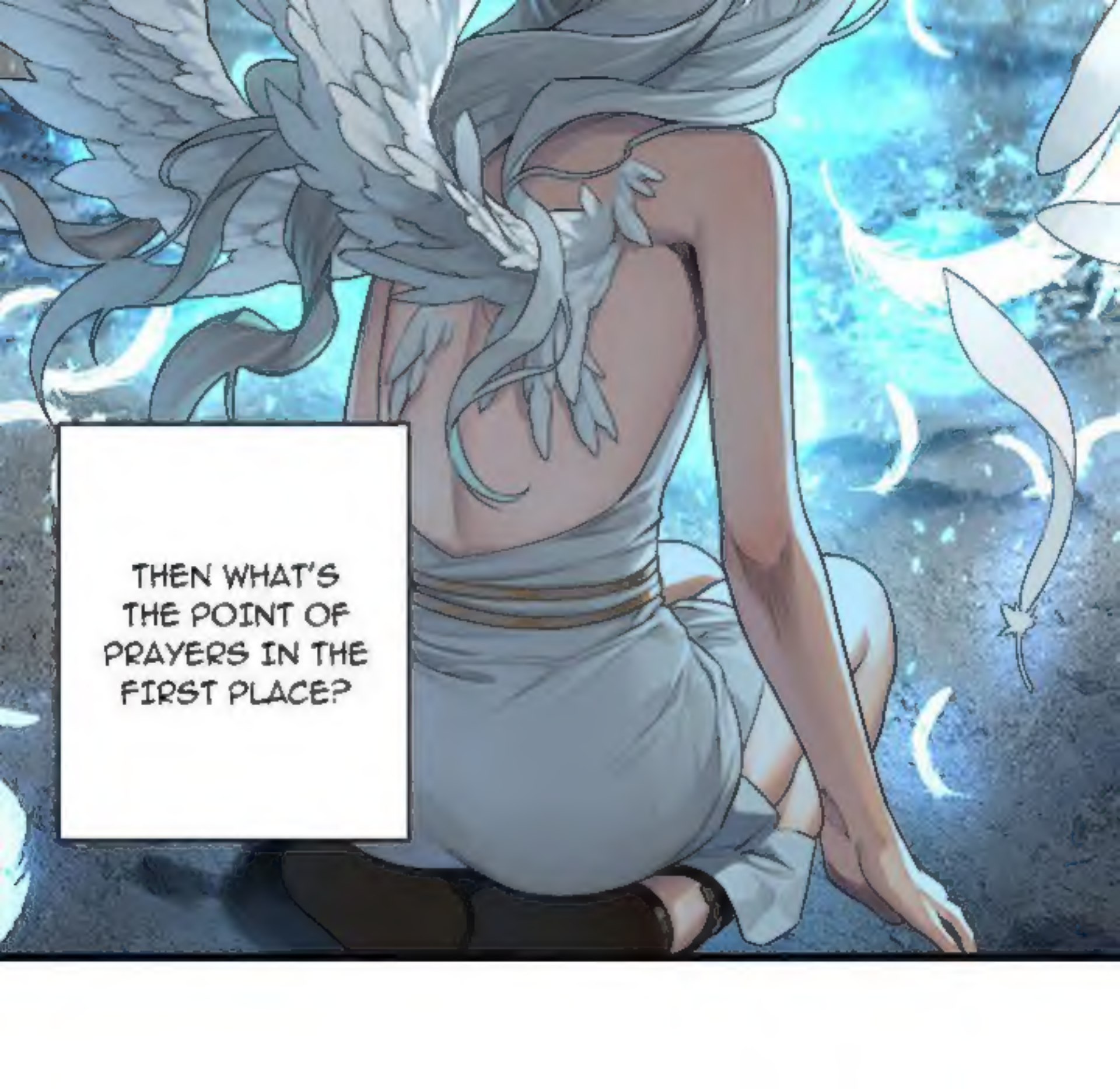
MURMUR

IF I CANNOT
USE MY PRAYERS
TO HELP A PURE
SOUL...



WHO RISKED
HIS LIFE TO HELP
SOMEONE HE HAD
NEVER MET
BEFORE...

WOOSH

A manga-style illustration of a winged figure, possibly an angel or a deity, kneeling on a dark, textured ground. The figure has long, flowing white hair and large, feathered white wings. They are wearing a white, strapless dress with a gold belt. Their hands are clasped in front of them in a prayerful gesture. The background is a bright, ethereal blue with swirling patterns and some white, petal-like shapes floating around. A speech bubble is positioned to the left of the figure.

THEN WHAT'S
THE POINT OF
PRAYERS IN THE
FIRST PLACE?

HER SUMMON